

Message Text

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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8914

C O N F I D E N T I A L EC BRUSSELS 4573

EXDIS

DEPT PLEASE PASS WHITE HOUSE FOR L. WILLIAM SEIDMAN FROM DENT

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, US, EEC

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT FORD'S MEETING WITH ORTOLI AND SOAMES

1. AMBASSADOR GREENWALD AND I MET FOR A HALF HOUR THIS MORNING WITH PRESIDENT ORTOLI OF THE EC. IN A VERY THOUGHTFUL DISCUSSION, WHICH I BELIEVE REPRESENTS THE VIEWPOINT TO BE EXPRESSED AT THE ORTOLI-SOAMES' VISIT WITH PRESIDENT FORD NEXT WEEK IN BRUSSELS, HE SAID THAT THE MAJOR PROBLEM FACING THE WESTERN WORLD IS TO ACHIEVE GREATER STABILITY IN MONETARY AND ECONOMIC MATTERS. HE FEELS THAT INABILITY TO ACHIEVE THIS OVER THE NEXT FIVE TO TEN YEARS WOULD RESULT IN FREE PEOPLE SEEKING OTHER THAN OUR TRADITIONAL WAYS OF ORGANIZING AND DEALING WITH THESE AFFAIRS.

2. TO AVOID THIS RESULT, PRESIDENT ORTOLI BELIEVES WE MUST IMPROVE THE DEGREE OF ECONOMIC POLICY COORDINATION BETWEEN THE MAJOR POWERS, PARTICULARLY THE EC AND THE UNITED STATES.

3. LATER VICE PRESIDENT SOAMES IN A SEPARATE CONVERSATION STRESSED THE NEED FOR INTENSIFICATION OF COORDINATION AND COOPERATION OF ECONOMIC POLICY MATTERS BETWEEN EC AND US.

4. I SUGGEST THAT THE PRESIDENT CONSIDER RESPONDING BY EXPRESSING A WISH TO BE KEPT MORE PERSONALLY INFORMED
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OF THESE MATTERS BY DIRECTING HIS ASSISTANT FOR ECONOMIC

AFFAIRS, THE CHAIRMAN OF CEA, ALONG WITH AMBASSADOR GREENWALD, TO CONSULT ON A REGULAR QUARTERLY BASIS WITH DESIGNEES OF PRESIDENT ORTOLI.

5. RESULTS OF CONSULATIONS IN ADDITION TO BEING MADE DIRECTLY AVAILABLE TO THE PRESIDENT COULD BE PASSED THROUGH CIEP STRUCTURE TO OUR DEPARTMENTS.

6. THE SUBSEQUENT FIVE-HOUR MEETING WITH VICE PRESIDENT SOAMES, COMMISSIONER GUNDELACH, AND THEIR SENIOR COLLEAGUES REGARDING THE MTN WAS FRANK, CONSTRUCTIVE AND FRIENDLY. WE FOCUSED ON THE SCENARIO FOR AND OUR COMMON OBJECTIVES IN THE NEGOTIATIONS.
GREENWALD

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